Dear Ian, 5/30/76

Although I have been much too busy on many too many matters, I finally did have to begin some changes in my office. As a result I've found your unanswered 4/20/76 and the 4/23 note with the second tape. My apologies and my thanks.

The biggest single extra time drain lately has been FOIA cases. The two current ones seem to be going well. The spectro appeal is the 3rd. The following week 1996. The amount of work required is great. I think the end will justify it. I've not been able to do any writing for close to a month, that much that must be done first.

My project with the tape seems not to be working out so don't bother now to try to get me one at the right speed, thanks. It is a dramatic representation of something we've known and I'd hope to score with it for that reason. There has to be some rehash or everything is dismissed as not new.

Interesting about Newcomb and the Powell picture. I'd just heard this week that it is published in a book called Cover-Up by Gary Shaw and someone else, privately. I guess Penn and Mary, both of whom helped, will be telling you about it.

That is not new, however, and Newcomb did not "discover" it. I asked for it years ago under FOIA, taking some time with Aechives and Army, both of whom insisted they did not have it. I don't now recall if I asked FBI. I'm told Newcomb got it from FBI under FOIA.

My own FOIA files are so jammed I can&t get into them. This is one of the changes I had to make. I've just started that shifting. When I work down to it I'll find out if the FBI ignored my request or if I ignored it. If the former I'll be writing Kelley.

You ask about my health. I see the doctor day after tomorrow. I feel okay but I'm uncomfortable periodically, some times for several straight days. I think some may be from the special venous supports I have to wear. I've eased off the past week and have been sleeping a little longer, too.

I hear nothing from those you mentioned. Among their many phobias is on that is partly on me, partly on being national. Rather against it. Generally speaking when they do something good they find a unique way or ruining it, as with unreasonable interpretations. You are a CIA agent if to you up is not down- with them. I've been through it.

I'm about 2/3 of the way through a draft of a new book on the King assassination if I didn't tell you. I do have substantial new evidence. It is bad having to lay this aside for long periods and then to wrench the mind onto and off of so many other things.

It is not that I have less JFK interest. Rather is it the impossibility of doing anything about the nuts and self-seekers and -promoters who have, I fear, ruined our present chances in the Congress. I'd love to be wrong! And I do continue my own work on it when and as I can. Problem is no decent market or outlet.

What these people have done is set up major successes in disinformation by the finks of various official and unofficial stripes. As best I can I've been collecting proofs of disinformation and try to get them used. One such is in the works now. I do have a little hope for its appearance, not auspices.

The various stories that have appeared that may kindle Talmes in the paranoid hearts are really disinformation operations, officials or not. We are not at a time when any criticism of the official bit meanw anything. Most of it will, in the end, unless countered, be hurtful. The current Tad Szulc peice, it is gets attention down there. It is syndicated by the New Republic. Big p.1 spash Friday in WpStar. It, like just about all the others, has the Warren Commission innocent on all counts, Rockefeller/Helin where mentioned.

Don't go to any special trouble or cost but if it happens that you can get a dub of the unedited police tape and the timing is close to accurate, I would like to use it as a time clock. Fensterwald, by the way, promised this months ago. No word since.

I stay out of touch with almost all except Jim Lesar and Howard Roffman. The others are no longer with is (and of some I add alas!), are unwell or are time-wasters and do bad things without enough common sense to understand it or integrity to recognize it. So on much I'm not with it, either. But it does let me be more productive. I'm really sorry about this long delay in responding. If it makes you feel any better, right on top of your letter was one from a friend of the past who is not in the White House. That will stay unanswered and I'll take a pre-supper walk. Thanks much and best,